

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8073

To provide for a limitation on obligation and expenditure of funds for bilateral economic assistance to the Republic of El Salvador, the Republic of Guatemala, and the Republic of Honduras.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 18, 2024

Ms. MACE (for herself, Mr. ROSENDALE, and Mr. GOODEN of Texas) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To provide for a limitation on obligation and expenditure of funds for bilateral economic assistance to the Republic of El Salvador, the Republic of Guatemala, and the Republic of Honduras.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Northern Triangle
5 Asylum Cooperative Agreement Reimplementation Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. LIMITATION ON OBLIGATION AND EXPENDITURE**
2 **OF FUNDS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on the date that is 180
4 days after the date of the enactment of this Act—

5 (1) none of the funds authorized to be appro-
6 priated or otherwise made available for bilateral eco-
7 nomic assistance under part I of the Foreign Assist-
8 ance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151 et seq.) may be
9 obligated or expended for the provision of assistance
10 to the Republic of El Salvador until the Secretary of
11 State submits to Congress a certification described
12 in subsection (b)(1);

13 (2) none of the funds authorized to be appro-
14 priated or otherwise made available for bilateral eco-
15 nomic assistance under part I of the Foreign Assist-
16 ance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151 et seq.) may be
17 obligated or expended for the provision of assistance
18 to the Republic of Guatemala until the Secretary of
19 State submits to Congress a certification described
20 in subsection (b)(2); and

21 (3) none of the funds authorized to be appro-
22 priated or otherwise made available for bilateral eco-
23 nomic assistance under part I of the Foreign Assist-
24 ance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151 et seq.) may be
25 obligated or expended for the provision of assistance
26 to the Republic of Honduras until the Secretary of

1 State submits to Congress a certification described
2 in subsection (b)(3).

3 (b) CERTIFICATION.—A certification referred to in
4 subsection (a) is a certification that—

5 (1) for the purposes of subsection (a)(1), there
6 is entered into force an agreement between the Gov-
7 ernment of the United States of America and the
8 Government of the Republic of El Salvador that con-
9 tains terms and conditions that are substantially
10 similar to the terms and conditions contained in the
11 Agreement Between the United States of America
12 and the Government of the Republic of El Salvador
13 for Cooperation in the Examination of Protection
14 Claims, signed on September 30, 2019, and termi-
15 nated on August 4, 2021;

16 (2) for the purposes of subsection (a)(2), there
17 is entered into force an agreement between the Gov-
18 ernment of the United States of America and the
19 Government of the Republic of Guatemala that con-
20 tains terms and conditions that are substantially
21 similar to the terms and conditions contained in the
22 Agreement Between the United States of America
23 and the Government of the Republic of Guatemala
24 on Cooperation Regarding the Examination of Pro-

1 tection Claims, signed on July 26, 2019, and termi-
2 nated on May 4, 2021; and

3 (3) for the purposes of subsection (a)(3), there
4 is entered into force an agreement between the Gov-
5 ernment of the United States of America and the
6 Government of the Republic of Honduras that con-
7 tains terms and conditions that are substantially
8 similar to the terms and conditions contained in the
9 Agreement Between the United States of America
10 and the Government of the Republic of Honduras on
11 Cooperation in the Examination of Protection
12 Claims, signed on September 25, 2019, and termi-
13 nated on August 5, 2021.

14 (c) RECERTIFICATIONS.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
16 after the date on which the Secretary of State sub-
17 mits to Congress an initial certification under sub-
18 section (a), and every 180 days thereafter, the Sec-
19 retary shall submit to Congress a recertification that
20 the conditions described in subsection (b) are con-
21 tinuing to be met.

22 (2) FURTHER LIMITATION.—If the Secretary of
23 State is unable to make a recertification described in
24 paragraph (1), or fails to make such a recertifi-
25 cation, the limitations on the obligations and ex-

1 penditures of funds described in of subsection (a)
2 shall apply.

3 (d) IMPLEMENTATION.—Except as otherwise pro-
4 vided in this Act, the agreements that are the subject of
5 a certification under subsection (b) shall be implemented
6 in accordance with the interim final rule entitled “Imple-
7 menting Bilateral and Multilateral Asylum Cooperative
8 Agreements Under the Immigration and Nationality Act”
9 (84 FR 63994). Such interim final rule shall thereafter
10 have the force and effect of law, and may not be repealed
11 or amended.

12 (e) LIMITATION.—For purposes of the implementa-
13 tion of any agreement that is the subject of a certification
14 under subsection (b)—

15 (1) the Secretary of Homeland Security may
16 not find that it is in the public interest for an alien
17 subject to the agreement to receive asylum in the
18 United States; and

19 (2) the Secretary may not otherwise permit an
20 alien to remain in the United States on the basis
21 that the alien’s life or freedom would be threatened
22 in the Republic of El Salvador, the Republic of Gua-
23 temala, or the Republic of Honduras because of—

24 (A) climate, environmental conditions, or
25 weather-related natural disasters; or

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1 (B) violence from a criminal street gang.

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